

arms on the floor, and presently killed and drove away every rat and mouse from the room.



The King was astonished to see a small creature drive away, in a moment, all his old enemies, and the Queen begged to have her brought near her. At first she was afraid to pufs, but when the captain strook her, and the good-natured animal kept purring and singing, the Queen took the cat in her lap, and the

she presently sung herself to sleep. Now the King, according to his promise, bought all the merchandise the captain had in his ship, and then paid him for the cat, which amounted to ten times as much money as the whole cargo besides. After parting, the captain assured the majesties that the cat was witty and young, so it was likely she would stock the whole country.

It was on that very day twelve months, and about the same hour in the morning, on which Dick Whittington fancied Bow-bells advised him to return, that Mr. Fitzwarren, who was a very early riser, was sitting in his counting-house and heard a tap at the door; who is there? said the merchant, a little surprised, for the hour was too early for business: a friend, replied the other: What friend comes at this unseasonable hour? A real friend said the other, should come, I think never.